

Claims

- [c1] A package for a retail item comprising:
 - a panel having a front side and a back side;
 - an enclosure attached to said panel, said enclosure enclosing the retail item;
 - a bar code printed on either the front side or the back side of said panel; and
 - an aperture defined in said panel and passing through said bar code, said aperture adapted to receive a hook for hanging the package.
- [c2] The package of claim 1, wherein said bar code is adapted to be read by a machine at a checkout counter, said bar code providing information to the machine that enables the machine to determine the price of the retail item.
- [c3] The package of claim 1, wherein said bar code is a Universal Product Code.
- [c4] The package of claim 1, wherein said panel is made out of cardboard.
- [c5] The package of claim 1, wherein said enclosure is made of plastic and said enclosure completely surrounds the

retail item.

- [c6] The package of claim 1, wherein said aperture is circular.
- [c7] The package of claim 1, wherein said aperture is non-circular and includes a top end that is narrower than a bottom end.
- [c8] The package of claim 1, wherein said bar code is printed on the front side of said panel and said front side of said panel includes information about the retail item printed thereon in a location outside of said bar code.
- [c9] The package of claim 1, wherein said retail item is a flowable material and said enclosure houses said flowable material.
- [c10] The package of claim 1, wherein said aperture has a height that is less than one half of the height of said bar code.
- [c11] The package of claim 1, wherein said aperture is defined between the ends of said bar code.
- [c12] The package of claim 1, wherein said aperture is defined generally midway between the ends of said bar code.
- [c13] The package of claim 1, wherein said aperture is defined adjacent to a top of said panel.

- [c14] The package of claim 1, wherein said bar code provides price information for said retail item and a product number for said retail item.
- [c15] A package for a retail item comprising:
 - a panel having a front side and a back side;
 - a retail item attached to said panel;
 - a bar code printed on either the front side or the back side of said panel; and
 - an aperture defined in said panel and passing through said bar code, said aperture adapted to receive a hook for hanging the package.
- [c16] The package of claim 15, wherein said bar code is adapted to be read by a machine at a checkout counter, said bar code providing information to the machine that enables the machine to determine the price of the retail item.
- [c17] The package of claim 16, wherein said bar code is a Universal Product Code.
- [c18] The package of claim 17, wherein said panel is made out of cardboard.
- [c19] The package of claim 15, wherein said aperture is circular.

- [c20] The package of claim 15, wherein said aperture is non-circular and includes a top end that is narrower than a bottom end.
- [c21] The package of claim 15, wherein said bar code is printed on the front side of said panel and said front side of said panel includes information about the retail item printed thereon in a location outside of said bar code.
- [c22] The package of claim 15, wherein said aperture is defined adjacent a top of the panel.
- [c23] The package of claim 15, wherein said bar code provides price information for said retail item and a product number for said retail item.
- [c24] The package of claim 15, wherein said retail item is attached to said panel by way of a fastener selected from the group consisting of staples, tapes, adhesives, and ties.
- [c25] The package of claim 15, wherein said aperture is defined between the ends of said bar code.